

Fall 8-15-2007

WST 2309G-003: Women, Men, and Culture

Rachel Heicher
Eastern Illinois University

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WST 2309G-
003

WST 2309G-003: Women, Men, and Culture
Fall 2007
3:30 – 4:45 TTh
CH 2160

Rachel Heicher
3139 Coleman Hall
Office Phone: 581-7481
Email: rdheicher@eiu.edu

Office Hours: 11:30-1:00 MW and
2:00-3:00 MW
(or by appointment)

Course Description:

WST 2309 “examines gender roles and development in a historical context from a variety of theoretical and disciplinary perspectives and within a variety of frameworks: political, economic, cultural, religious, and social.”

WST 2309 is also designated **writing intensive**, which means that papers written in this class are eligible for submission to the electronic writing portfolio. Submission forms and more information on the EWP are available at: <http://www.eiu.edu/~assess>

Required Texts:

Kesselman, Amy, Lily McNair, and Nancy Schniedewind, eds. *Women: Images & Realities: A Multicultural Anthology*. 3rd ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2003.

Kirk, Gwyn and Margo Okazawa-Rey, eds. *Women's Lives: Multicultural Perspectives*. 3rd ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2004.

Objectives:

During the course of the semester, we will examine and discuss gender roles and how the portrayal of gender intersects with issues of race, class, sexual orientation, etc. to affect the everyday lives of women and men in our culture. This endeavor will include honing your critical thinking, writing, and speaking skills as you read, analyze and respond to course materials, conduct research, and present your findings to the class. At the end of this course, you should have a basic understanding of the history of feminist movement, be able to identify a variety of current issues related to gender, and write and speak intelligently and respectfully in response to such issues.

Grading: Your grade for the course will be based upon the following:

Preparation and active participation in class activities & assignments worth 150 pts.

(5 pts. per class meeting)

End of class short writes (worth 5 pts. per class meeting for a total of 150 pts.)

5 minute oral introduction to assigned readings 100 pts.

8-10 pg. Research Essay 200 pts.

Oral Presentation of Research 100 pts.

Midterm Exam 100 pts.

Final Exam 200 pts.

Grading Scale: 900-1000 = A
 800-899 = B
 700-799 = C
 600-699 = D
 599 and under = F

Policies & Procedures:

Respectful Participation:

Because of the sensitive nature of some of the issues we will be discussing in class, it is paramount that we show respect for one another at all times. Showing respect means listening to one another politely and without interruption, providing thoughtful responses and avoiding personal verbal attacks. Showing respect also means that you will be required to shut off all electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, ipods, etc.) in order not to disrupt class.

Academic Integrity:

I maintain the following policy on plagiarism, in keeping with EIU English department guidelines: "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—the appropriation or imitation of language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's own work' (*Random House Dictionary of the English Language*)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty up to and including immediate assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office." Any other instances of cheating on any assignment or exam will result in the same actions as those upheld for discovering plagiarism.

Attendance:

You must be here in order to learn and benefit from the class. Absences will count as excused *only* in cases of prearranged University approved absence or documented illness. Absence from class, whether excused or unexcused, does not constitute an excuse for late or incomplete work or for being unprepared for the next class meeting.

Refer also to the explanation of points awarded for attendance/participation in the grading section of this syllabus.

Writing Center:

The Writing Center, located in CH 3110, is staffed by English graduate students who are available to help you with every phase of the writing process. They do not proofread papers, but rather provide assistance with invention strategies, thesis statements, organization, documentation, and a host of other writing-related issues. They are knowledgeable and friendly, and (best of all) the service is FREE! You can call 581-5929 for an appointment, or just stop in. You may also visit their website for more info (<http://www.eiu.edu/~writing>).

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Tentative Course Calendar:

August Week One: Feminism(s) & Women's Studies

- 21 Intro to class/distribution of syllabus
23 Kirk pgs. 9-20 "Theories and Theorizing" + pgs. 25-38 (Johnson and CRC)

Week Two: Gender & Identity

- 28 Kirk pgs. 21-24 (Lorber), Kesselman pgs. 42-44, 68-69, 110-115 (Gould),
Kirk pgs. 164-168 (Feinberg)

- 30 Kesselman pgs. 70-73 (Gilman), 96-99 (Higginbotham)

September Week Three: Media & Advertising

- 4 Kesselman pgs. 99-103 (Rhode)
6 *Killing Us Softly 3* (in-class film)

Week Four: Body Image

- 11 Kirk pgs. 111-120
13 Kirk pgs. 121-125 (Chernik), 130-135 (Ortiz Cofer), 135 (Ka'ahumanu)

Week Five: Sexuality

- 18 Kesselman pgs. 150-153 (Walker), 164-166 (Leonard & Doud)
20 Kirk pgs. 143-152, Kesselman pgs. 175-177 (Ochs)

Week Six: Reproduction

- 25 Kirk pgs. 173-178 ("Reproductive Health, Reproductive Rights" – "Medicalization of Reproductive Life", Kesselman pgs. 345-354 (Hubbard, Roberts, & Kolbert)
Kirk pgs. 190-194 (Saxton)
27 Kesselman pgs. 336-345 (Fowler, et al, Males, & CT State Legislature)
Kirk pgs. 187-190 (Harjo)

October Week Seven: Women's Health

- 2 Kesselman pgs. 313-318 (Stevens), 328-330 (Ms.)
4 Kirk pgs. 178-187 "Women & Illness" – "Health as Wellness,"
Kesselman pgs. 323-327 (Hammonds)

Week Eight

- 9 midterm exam
11 individual conferences—**First Draft of Research Essay Due: bring disc and printed copy to your scheduled conference**

Week Nine

- 16 individual conferences
- 18 individual conferences

Week Ten: Violence Against Women

- 23 Kesselman pgs.444-447 + 448-454 (Jones), 464-467 (Wan Lin & Imm Tan), 475-477 (Devlin)
- 25 Kirk pgs. 225-239, 249-256 (Foo), 266-271 (Madhubuti)
Kesselman pgs. 481-487 (Sanday)

Week Eleven: Relationships & Family

- 30 Kirk pgs. 273-286, Kesselman pgs. 61-62 (Wolf), 271-277 (Washington)
- November*
- 1 Kesselman pgs. 267-271 (Jordan), 263-267 (Brant), 406-408 (McGuire)
Kirk pgs. 305-308 (Gill & Voss)

Week Twelve: Women & the Workplace

- 6 Kirk pgs. 317-331, Kesselman pgs. 198-201 (Crittenden), Kirk pg. 347 "He/She"
- 8 Kesselman pgs.207-212 (Whealin), 212-214 (Sandler), Kirk pgs. 359-369 (Louie)

Week Thirteen: History of Feminist Movement

- 13 Kesselman pgs. 509-514 (Kesselman), 514-516 (Seneca Falls), 517-518 (Sojourner Truth)
- 15 Kesselman pgs. 46-49 (Friedan), 520-523 (Brownmiller), 424-427 (McIntosh), 524-529 (Smith)

November 20 & 22: Thanksgiving Break

Week Fourteen:

- 27 presentations
- 29 presentations

December **Week Fifteen: Contemporary Activism**

- 4 **Final Draft of Research Essay Due**, Kirk pgs. 521-534 "Creating Change"
- 6 Kesselman pgs. 598-606 (Baumgardner & Richards), 606-609 "Voices of ..."

Final Exam: Thursday, Dec. 13th
12:30-2:30 pm